

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

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 No. 8.

MANUEL J. JOHNSON, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Thomas Lee, Esq., Kilmarnock;

Rev. Bartholomew Price, Pembroke College, Oxford; and

George Rennie, Esq., 21 Whitehall Place;

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

New Planet.

A new planet was discovered on the 28th of May, by Mr. Norman Pogson, First Assistant at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.

It was first seen on the 23d of May; but clouds prevented any further observation than a mere estimate of its place, which was then

		R.A.			N.P.D.	
	^h ^m	^h ^m ^s			[°] [']	
May 23	12 30	16 13 6			105 23	

It is rather brighter than a tenth magnitude. The President having been invited to assign a name to the planet, has proposed to call it *Isis*.

Observations of the planet made by Mr. Pogson on the evening of its discovery, and subsequently to that date, will be found at page 200.

Occultations observed by Lieut. Joseph Dayman, R.N.

(*Extract of a Letter to the President.*)

"The papers of the Royal Astronomical Society are sometimes sent to me by the Hydrographic Office at the Admiralty, and in that for April this year I see some occultations observed by Capt. Shadwell at Portsmouth.

"Having made a few observations of the same kind on the coast of South Africa, for the determination of longitudes, which have been calculated at the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, I

send them in the hope that they may be made useful through the same channel, if you should think them worthy of publication :—

Station of Observation.	Phenomenon Observed.	Day of Obs.	Observed Time of Station.	Resulting Long. East of Greenwich.	Latitude of Obs. Station.
D'Urban, Port Natal	Imm. of θ Ophiuchi	1854 Aug. 4	h m s 9 16 18	h m s 2 4 16.9	° ' " S. 29 52 48
—	Em. of θ Ophiuchi	...	10 35 25	2 4 10.8	
Port Elizabeth, Algoa Bay	Imm. of δ Libræ	1855 April 4	13 16 11.4	1 42 18.6	33 57 36 S.
—	Imm. of α^2 Libræ	April 4	13 25 44.4	1 42 21.4	
—	Imm. of ϕ Sagittarii	April 8	14 34 28	1 42 21.9	

“The solar eclipse of November 20th, 1854, was also observed, but has not been calculated yet: the mean time of each contact was,—

Station of Observation.	Phenomenon Observed.	Day of Obs.	Observed Time of Station.	Latitude of Obs. Station.
Port Elizabeth, Algoa Bay	Beginning	1854 Nov. 19	h m s 22 24 57	° ' " S. 33 57 36
—	Ending	Nov. 20	0 57 16	

“All these observations were made with a refracting telescope by Fraunhofer.

“2 Adelaide Street, Charing Cross, 1856, June 17.”

Results derived from an Examination of certain places of the five principal Planets, as interpreted from Inscriptions on four old Tablets discovered in Egypt, made principally for Determination of the Epoch of the Tablets. By Mr. William Ellis, Assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by G. B. Airy, Esq., Astronomer Royal.)

The tablets considered in this paper were discovered with other antiquities by the Rev. Henry Stobart during travels in Egypt in the years 1853 and 1854. The whole of these antiquities appear to have been afterwards submitted to the inspection of M. Brugsch, of Berlin, who seems to have soon discovered that the inscriptions on four small tablets, forming part of the collection, consisted of a long series of places of the five principal planets. The result of M. Brugsch's examination of these tablets is to be found in a pamphlet published at Berlin about the end of the year 1855, under the following title :—*Nouvelle Recherches sur la Division de l'Année des Anciens Egyptiens, suivie d'un Mémoire sur des Observations Planétaires, consignées dans quatre Tablettes Egyptiennes en écriture démotique.* M. Brugsch gives in this pamphlet a description of the appearance of the four tablets, accompanied by engraved copies of the same, and also his rendering of the Egyptian inscriptions, the epoch of them, however, being unknown,